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N/ED 328/53
9 August 1963
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Military-Economics Division, CDR

Declass Review
by NGA

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ATTENTION: [REDACTED]

FROM: Chief, CL/PID (MPIC)

SUBJECT: Probable Alternate MIR Launch Site at Anastasyevka, USSR

REFERENCES: (a) Requirement C-X-3-80, 467
(b) CIA/PID Project S 1113-63

1. This memorandum is in response to your requirement dated 8 August 1963 which requests a detailed description of the probable alternate MIR launch site located at 48-32-10N 135-31-45E near the Anstashevka MIR Launch Complex. This site was identified on [REDACTED]

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2. This probable alternate launch site consists of four elongated launch pads, which have been constructed since [REDACTED]. They are placed along the crest of a sparsely wooded low ridge adjacent to the south bank of the river flood plain. Each pad is aligned on an azimuth of approximately 110° which is parallel to the azimuth of the pads at the nearby Type II MIR launch sites. The basic road pattern into the area was present in [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] and was found to be slightly modified when last observed on interpretable photography in [REDACTED]. When seen in [REDACTED] the road pattern remained unchanged from the previous modification, as the pads had not yet been constructed.

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Analysis of the 1958 [REDACTED] coverage of this area reveals the existence of three and possibly four groups of revetments which are similar in size to those observed on the early coverages of the SSM launch facilities at Kepustin Yar (Figure 3). A definite pattern similar to any observed at MIR or at the launch facility Chelkay has not been established; however, it does appear that definite groupings of from four to six revetments are present at the probable alternate site.

This probable alternate site is comparable in size and appearance to the Sagua La Grande fixed field type sites identified in Cuba in [REDACTED]. The pad clearings at both locations measure approximately 100 x 300 feet and each site in its entirety covers approximately 200 acres. Pad separation at launch sites of this type previously identified has not been as consistent as that found at the fixed Type I and Type II launch sites. In the case of this probable alternate launch site it appears that the exact pad location was

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greatly influenced by the terrain in the immediate area, as each pad is placed on either a small knoll or along the crest of a low ridge. There are unidentified objects on at least three of the four probable pads at this site. They appear to be shorter than the objects believed to be missile erectors observed on this latest coverage on each of the pads at the nearby Type II launch sites. However, photo quality on [redacted] precludes a detailed comparison or measurement of the objects observed at these three sites. No structures of any type can be definitely identified at or near the four alternate pads.

The two Type II launch areas at Anastasyevka each have 12 barracks-type and at least four other large buildings present in the housing and administration section. This compares to eight barracks-type buildings which appear somewhat larger than those at Anastasyevka, and at least four other type buildings found at each of the Type II launch areas at the Voru Launch Complex. The housing and administration sections at each of the three Rivertsey Launch Areas (two Type I sites and one Type II) are the same size as those found at Voru. Neither the Voru or the Rivertsey Complexes have present a facility analogous to the support area identified at the Anastasyevka Launch Complex to the north of and between the launch areas. This support facility consists of at least 20 buildings 7 of which are barracks type. A group of six buildings of undetermined function located to the west of this support area was present in 1958 and remains unchanged on the latest available coverage. However, the location of the support area proper was not covered by photography at that time. Thus, it is not possible to state whether or not this installation was in existence as early as 1958. It did appear to be complete the first time it was observed on [redacted] photography in [redacted].

[redacted] when the two Type II sites were in an early stage of construction. It is possible then that this facility was constructed to support the activity associated with the revetments identified on 1958 [redacted] photography and with other similar groupings possibly present, but never covered by large scale photography. It is suggested that it might be beneficial to search existing photography for indications of field type launch positions in the vicinity of known MRBM launch complexes at which there are present separate support areas similar in size to the one at Anastasyevka.

3. The photo analyst on this project was [redacted] and he may be contacted on [redacted] should you have any further questions regarding this project.

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4. This project is considered to be complete.

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5. This project has been coordinated with PAG.

Enclosure:

- 1 - Three (3) line drawings
(CIA/PID/MEB-P-88/63 1 - 3)

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